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Validation phase exceeds approved cost

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The cost for the “validation phase” of the Minden arena project has exceeded the amount Minden Hills council approved for it, by a wide margin.

During a special meeting of council on Jan. 31, councillors received an update on the project, some expressing dismay at the size of the financial overage for its initial phase, and ultimately refused to approve those additional costs.

In September, the previous Minden Hills council approved \$140,000 for the completion of the validation phase, which is a series of engineering assessments. In July of last year, the previous council essentially approved, in principle, awarding the project – which is now proposed to include the construction of a new arena and gymnasium, which would be attached to the current community centre building – to Ottawa's McDonald Brothers Construction, which was the sole company to bid on the project. The contract for the job, which would cost \$12.5 million, plus HST, has not yet been signed, and council is scheduled to vote on whether to authorize the contract during a Feb. 14 meeting.

In December, community services director Mark Coleman brought a report to council saying the forecasted cost for the validation phase had risen to \$252,000, and councillors

see COUNCIL page 2



Racers lace up their snowshoes

A competitor passes a wooden shelter at Abbey Gardens during the 10-kilometre race on Saturday, Jan. 26. It was the first event of the Ontario Cup Snowshoe Race season and included three race distances: family, five kilometre and 10 kilometre. Organizer Heather Lee appreciated the support of Haliburton County, Dysart et al, Yours Outdoors and Joleen Thomas, who was instrumental with race logistics. /DARREN LUM Staff

Fire claims Boshkung home

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

A house on Lake Boshkung north of Carnarvon was destroyed by fire on the after-

noon of Friday, Feb. 1. Algonquin Highlands fire chief Mike Cavanagh told the *Times* the department received the call about the fire at about 2 p.m.

“The fire was well developed on our arrival and crews extinguished the fire,” Cavanagh said in an email. “We had mutual aid from Minden and Dysart to assist with the water

shuttle. The house is a total loss.”

Cavanagh said there were no injuries to occupants or firefighters, and that the cause of the fire was under investigation.

There was another fire later that day, when a fire that started in a hot tub on the deck of a house on Kawagama Lake caused \$30,000 worth of damage.



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Council scheduled to vote on contract Feb. 14

from page 1

approved up to an additional \$140,000 – so, a total spending ceiling of \$280,000 – for that phase of the project.

During the Jan. 31 meeting, it was revealed that cost has risen again.

“That number has been revised,” Coleman told councillors, adding that, “Part of this is forecasting, part of it’s actuals.”

The revised number was more than \$323,000, exceeding the December estimate by nearly \$71,000. On top of that, additional legal and meeting costs – including conference calls and lunches – have brought the total combined forecast for the validation phase to \$353,000, Coleman’s report indicated.

During the Jan. 31 meeting, Coleman turned things over to Paul McDonald, president of McDonald Brothers Construction, to explain the cost increase.

“It’s a variable,” McDonald said of the estimate for the validation phase. “It’s a function of a dozen engineering firms, individuals, ourselves . . . looking at what we’re asking of them to put this report together.”

The scope of the project has also grown somewhat, since a gymnasium large enough to host a high-school-level basketball game is now included in the proposed design. The proposed gymnasium presented during a December public meeting on the project was smaller than a school-sized gymnasium, something that drew criticism from the community.

“This cost increase is primarily a result of the building design evolution,” Coleman’s report read.

“That value is an approximation,” McDonald said, adding that in the original request for proposals document his company had responded to, it was indicated the validation phase could cost as much as \$400,000. “It’s not like a purchase order.”

“It comes as a surprise,” Mayor Brent Devolin said of the new figure. “I guess I would have liked to have advance knowledge, when we approved the number we did, that there was a variable there. Unlike the rest of the project, where I think we’ve been working really hard to screw those variables down all over the place, this kind of comes out of left field. So it’s . . . it’s perplexing.”

McDonald re-emphasized the estimate for the validation phase, which includes a series of sub-consultants, is an approximation.

“There is no little line in all of the sub-consultants’ fee proposals, where you can really ascertain, exactly, that validation portion,” he said.

“The number we gave you, it includes all of that fee, you’re not paying more here,” said Patrick Brousseau of McDonald Brothers, referring to the project’s total cost, which has not been approved by council. “I understand the predicament. It’s a little more than what you had authorized, and we apologize for that. But the investment that you’ve made now, you’re benefitting from it, because I have less contingency . . . we’re not burning that money.”

“So, to put that in simple, layman’s terms, the exercise in drilling deeper, you remove risk,” Devolin said.

Councillor Bob Carter expressed significant dismay that the costs for the validation phase were exceeding what had been approved by council.

“In December, we had a meeting, we had some actual costs up to that point, and we came and we were asked to approve another \$140,000,” Carter said in reference to council’s raising of the spending ceiling up to \$280,000. He noted the updated forecasted cost for the validation phase exceeded the December estimate by 50 per cent.

“That’s a 50 per cent overage in about six weeks,” Carter said. “I understand your explanation, and I don’t give a damn about original budgets and what things originally cost. You know, we were asked for \$140,000 to get to a point, and we made it very, very clear that that was the amount of money that we were going to be spending. And now we’re 50 per cent over.”

“I wasn’t privy to what happened at council,” McDonald said, indicating perhaps there’d been some miscommunication.

“We here in the council, I believe, are here to give guidance to the operational people, so I’m not looking to you for the explanation,” Carter said to McDonald. “We gave this to the operational people, and that’s where I have the biggest concern.”

“In fairness to the operational people, they came to me and

asked for this,” McDonald replied. “I think the miscommunication lies with me, personally.”

Councillor Jennifer Hughey said she shared Carter’s concerns.

“I just wanted to echo some of what Councillor Carter said,” Hughey told the room. “I think he mentioned quotes like ‘level of comfort.’ You know, there’s a certain level of comfort that we as council have to have in you, and in our right to bring this forward to us . . . when maybe we’re at a \$10,000 overage, versus a \$70,000 overage, because that really creates a level of uncertainty in general.”

“I’ve been thinking . . . as the mayor said, this is the biggest capital project we’ve been faced [with], and so my uncertainty lies a little bit now with you guys, right?” Hughey said to the McDonald reps and Coleman. “Because I’m trusting you to come forward to us with numbers that are correct.”

“This is massive, right?” Hughey continued. “So we expect maybe a higher level of information relayed. So, I just want to put it out there on the record, that, for me, it’s not really about if we build this arena, it’s when, but it’s also about how, and how this process is done, and for me, that’s the most important part.”

Chief administrative officer Lorrie Blanchard told council that, in order for them to be at the point where they had enough information to make a decision, all the work that has been completed needed to be completed.

“I don’t disagree with you, except that it’s one thing to have work done that’s necessary, and it’s one thing to have work done that’s approved,” Carter said. “The principle is, once we approve something, that is what should be done, or there has to be some new approval.”

In a recorded vote, councillors voted uniformly not to approve the additional costs for the validation phase.

Earlier in the meeting, councillors received a presentation on the updated proposed facility design from Mario Pistone of Parkin Architects, that included a tour through a three-dimensional rendering. Council is scheduled to vote on whether it will proceed with the awarding of the contract during a Feb. 14 meeting.

Fundraiser asks residents to sleep in cars

A planned fundraiser will ask county residents to spend a night in their vehicles to raise awareness of, and funds to combat, homelessness in Haliburton County.

Homelessness exists in Haliburton County. It’s a type of homelessness that doesn’t resemble the typical version one might see on television, or on the streets of downtown Toronto, with people sleeping on pieces of cardboard along busy sidewalks.

Rather, the county’s homeless population is part of what is often referred to as the “hidden homeless,” people with no place of their own to go, who stay with friends, couch surf, or live out of vehicles.

“First choice is friends’ houses, and then when that wears out, they probably go to vehicles of various sorts,” says Fay Martin, founder of non-profit housing organization Places for

People. “Cars are one, RVs, trailers . . . so, the car is kind of iconic.”

In 2016, Martin conducted research on rural, hidden homelessness by interviewing 10 people living in the county in such conditions. One was a young woman in her 20s, whose name was “Susie” for the purposes of the study, who recalled her experience of finding herself sleeping in a car after she and her brother had left their mother’s home to escape an abusive stepfather.

Susie went first to a trailer on her mother’s property, and then tried couch surfing for a while. However, as Martin points out, the Children’s Aid Society has restrictions about accommodations that do not include one’s own room, etc.

From there, Susie and her brother stayed with a friend in Barrie for a year, before returning to the county.

“They put her in a motel, a local motel,” Martin says. “The issue was she had a dog.” That dog was a comfort to Susie, and sleeping without the animal was non-negotiable. So, her brother brought his car to the motel, and he would sleep in the motel room, while Susie slept in the car with her dog.

“And then, that got de-funded,” Martin says, explaining that situation ended when social services agency A Place Called Home ceased some of the services it had provided in Haliburton County.

From the motel, Susie went to live in an RV located on the property of parents of a friend of hers.

“It’s probably a fairly typical story, because young people are most at risk for sleeping in a car,” Martin says, adding part

of this is because of the accommodation restrictions that are placed on them. We know anecdotally there’s a huge youth problem here. We don’t have very many numbers.”

Pinning down exact numbers of people facing homelessness in the county is a challenge.

“In terms of numbers of individuals who are experiencing homelessness in Haliburton County, our By Name List (a real time list of individuals and families we know to be experiencing homelessness) has the names of 13 households who are experiencing homelessness,” Jocelyn Blazey, homelessness system resource co-ordinator for the county and City of Kawartha Lakes, told the paper in an email. “This includes those who are couch surfing, staying in temporary accommodation and a few who have been known to sleep outside. Since we created our By Name List (BNL) in 2016, however, we have identified a total of 57 households who have at some point experienced homelessness in Haliburton County.”

“As you can tell from the numbers, there are a significant number of people who have been homeless in Haliburton County in the last two years. We have been doing some concerted work over the last year or so in building our Coordinated Entry Response in an effort to better identify and support individuals who are homeless.”

“Of the 57 individuals identified in the last two years, some of them have moved out of the area and others have been successful in finding housing. While the BNL is a list of names, it does provide us with person-specific information that allows us to better support individuals, as we recognize that everyone is different, as is their experience of homelessness.”

The fundraiser Martin is organizing is scheduled to take place overnight on Friday, March 1. The idea is to have three concurrent events – one in Haliburton Village, one in Minden, one in Wilberforce – where residents will gather, partake in some programming that might include music and bonfires, before hopping into their vehicles with their bedding for the night.

Martin is hoping to host the events at the public facilities with public buildings that participants will be able to use for their washrooms and as warming stations, if required.

“The next day, we’re going to do some kind of reflection circle of some sort,” Martin says.

Chad Ingram, Staff



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Handlen handed life sentence

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Former Minden resident Garry Handlen has been sentenced to life in prison by the B.C. Supreme Court.

Handlen, who was living in Minden at the time of his arrest in late 2014, was found guilty of first-degree murder in the 1978 killing of 12-year-old girl Monica Jack, that verdict issued on Jan. 17, following a nearly three-month trial.

On Jan. 28, Handlen was sentenced to life in prison, which in Canada carries a minimum sentence of 25 years without parole. However, Handlen, 71, will be eligible for parole in 15 years due to the "faint hope clause," a former section of the Canadian Criminal Code. That clause allowed prisoners sentenced to life to apply for early parole after 15 years. While that section of the criminal code was repealed in 2011, those convicted of crimes that took place while it was in effect are still subject to that eligibility.

Handlen, who has a history of violent crime and rape convictions going back as far as 1963, was also charged for murder in the killing of another B.C. girl, Kathryn-Mary Herbert, in the 1970s. However, the Crown has said it will not be presenting evidence on that case.



'Pondimonium' at Pinestone

The second weekend of the Canadian Pond Hockey Championships at the Pinestone on Feb. 1 and 2 featured men's and women's masters divisions, as well as the "pondimonium" divisions, the latter being more concerned with fun than keeping score. /CHAD INGRAM Staff

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First round of budget talks wrap up

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Minden Hills council wrapped up its first round of 2019 budget talks last week, and council will continue those deliberations later this month.

While the tax levy increase in the first draft, often a sort of staff "wish list," was sitting at some 17 per cent, Mayor Brent Devolin made it clear that number would have to come down substantially. Department heads were given a range of percentage increases from five to below 10 per cent to aim for the second draft of the budget. That second draft is expected to come before council at a Feb. 14 meeting.

The tax increase in Minden Hills last year was 8.6 per cent.

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COUNCIL MEETINGS

Feb 14 - Committee of the Whole Meeting
Feb 28 - Regular Council Meeting

For Council, Boards & Advisory Committee meetings,
visit www.mindenhills.ca

Note: Council meetings are reduced to one (1)
for the months of January, July, August and December.

NOTICE – 2019 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will commence the 2nd round of its 2019 Budget deliberations during its Committee of the Whole Meeting scheduled for February 14, 2019.

The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers,
located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON.

Dawn Newhook, Clerk
705-286-1260 ext. 205 • dnewhook@mindenhills.ca

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Take notice there will be a Special Meeting of Council held on Thursday February 14, 2019 at 3:00 PM in the Minden Hills Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON.

The purpose of the Special Meeting is for Council to consider the Renewal of the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena and Community Centre Project.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena and Community Centre Project or Agreement please contact:

Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services mcoleman@mindenhills.ca or
705-286-1936 ext. 201.

Dated this 7th day of February, 2019.

Dawn Newhook, Clerk
(705) 286-1260 ext. 205 • dnewhook@mindenhills.ca



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At the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena
Sponsored by Minden Subaru
Monday, February 18, 2019
1:30 – 3:30 pm

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From Nov 1st to Apr 30th, overnight parking is prohibited between the hours of midnight and 8:00 AM on township roadways and parking lots. Bylaw staff would like to remind residents that restrictions on snow removal and street parking are in effect during these months. To avoid your vehicle being towed, please do not leave vehicles or trailers parked or standing on a public roadway, cul-de-sac or dead end road.

As well, please consider the safety of others and do not deposit snow on public roadways. This could create an unsafe situation for drivers and interfere with traffic movement and snow removal efforts.

WINTER SAND AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTIAL USE

Is available at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena parking lot, 55 Parkside Street for residential use.

Please note this is for Individual Use Only – No Commercial Users Please.

RIVERWALK & WETLANDS BOARDWALK – WINTER USAGE

The Boardwalk & Logger's Crossing Bridge are cleared of snow regularly but are not sanded or salted. Residents are advised to "Exercise Caution" when using these pathways as they could develop slippery conditions.

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Sundays and Wednesdays, 12:00pm-2:00pm
(until April 17th)

PLEASE NOTE: All children must be accompanied by a guardian 14 years of age or older and helmets are recommended for all skaters.

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Monday February 18th 1:30pm-3:30pm. Sponsored by Minden Subaru.

ADULT SKATE

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:00pm-2:00pm (until April 18th)

PLEASE NOTE: Helmets are recommended for all skaters.

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Sunday mornings, 10:00am-12:00pm
(until April 7th)

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(until April 16th)

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Monday evenings, 7:00pm-8:30pm
(Feb. 4th to April 15th)

PLEASE NOTE: Helmets are mandatory for all participants. Clean shoes/boots required. Every player **MUST** sign a waiver.

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No timeline on OMPF review given at conference

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Politicians from throughout the county made their way to Toronto for the annual Rural Ontario Municipal Association conference, an event where municipal politicians get a chance to partake in lectures, workshops and panel discussions, as well as interact with provincial cabinet ministers and party leaders.

In December, the provincial government announced it was conducting a review of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund, which provides annual funding allotments to municipal governments to help offset operating and capital costs, with an indication that the overall spending envelope for the program would decrease.

It is not clear exactly when municipalities will discover what impact the changes to the program will have for them individually, and Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor and Haliburton County Warden Liz Danielsen told the paper those details were not provided at the conference.

"It was evident during the conference that OMPF funding in particular is on the minds of all communities as we work on our budgets," Danielsen said in an email. "While it is an urgent matter for our four municipalities given that the funding equals as much as 25 per cent of our overall revenues, other communities rely on as much as 77 per cent of their budgets from OMPF. The loss of that much funding would be devastating. Unfortunately, we were unable to get any commitment from the province on the timing of their review and decision but we did hear that rural and northern remained the province's focus."

The program's initial focus was essentially to provide equalization payments to the province's smaller, poorer municipalities, but has grown over time to a more general municipal funding stream.

Danielsen, along with other county politicians, partook in delegations to ministers regarding issues of importance to the Haliburton Highlands.

"I participated in several meetings with Minister [Steve] Clarke and others (including a session with Andrea Horwath, leader of the opposition) to stress the need for funding for the Eastern Ontario Regional Network's cell gap project, for a fair decision/resolution to the province's review of OMPF

funding for rural and northern communities, for reduction of reporting requirements and red tape as well as assistance in funding housing for families at all income levels across the province," Danielsen said in her email.

The potential elimination of some of that redundancy and overlap when it comes to municipalities' reporting requirements to the province is welcome news to Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin.

"Procedural layers and complexity and time . . . this government seems to have a sincere appetite to [reduce] that," Devolin said. "And certainly, as they roll that out, we'll work diligently if we can dovetail that with what we're doing in the municipalities to help obtain better outcomes, with planning and development, and some of those things."

Haliburton County, for example, last week requested exemption from ministerial approval for amendments to the county's official plan.

Devolin was also optimistic about potential changes to joint and several liability, which says that in a lawsuit where multiple defendants are named, if it's proven that some of the defendants can't afford to pay their damages, those damages can be transferred to a defendant who can afford to pay them. This is why townships are often named as defendants in lawsuits. Ontario municipalities have been lobbying for changes to the law for years.

"Not only just the premier spoke of joint and several, but subsequent ministers and subsequent conversations that hap-

pened during the course of the convention is that they'll let us know that soon ... and by soon, my expectation is that at, or before the spring budget ... there's something coming forth with there," Devolin said.

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt told the paper one of the most important conversations she'd had during the conference was regarding physician recruitment.

"The most valuable - and timely, conversation I had this year was with the program manager of the Rural Ontario Medical Program (ROMP)," Moffatt said in an email. "Haliburton's previously robust relationship with ROMP needs to be reignited given recent discussions, and I look forward to folding further discussions with ROMP into our ongoing work with the Family Health Organization around physician recruitment."

County council will consider the hiring of a physician recruiter during its 2019 budget deliberations.

As for the messages coming from party leaders, Moffatt said she was keeping notes amid all the buzzwords.

"Listening to the party leaders is little more than entertainment these days because they speak to a captive audience using all the right buzzwords and touch points," she said in an email. "It's whether, and how, they follow through on those speeches that counts. I made note of the common phrases I heard: cutting red tape, flexibility, policy simplification, reflecting local conditions, moving away from 'one size fits all' and using more technology such as self-serve. In discussion, some thought that all sounded like less will lead to more, where others thought it sounded like downloading by stealth. There are certainly some polarized views out there and it will be interesting to see how it all unfolds."

Among the sessions Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts attended was one on food tourism.

"I went to a session on food tourism, which is a priority at the county," Roberts said in an email. "We heard an update on cannabis legislation as well as some general information from MPP Ernie Hardeman, OMAFRA and the theme that Ontario is open for business. The government wants to remove red tape but maintain public health and safety."

"We heard from Premier Ford and his message is that rural Ontario matters. 'Toronto is a bubble, rural Ontario is the real world.' The minister's forum is always a packed room where the ministers take questions from the floor. The conference in general is an opportunity for professional development. It's a


see BYLAW page 5

“

The most valuable and timely conversation I had this year was with the program manager of the Rural Ontario Medical Program.

”

— MAYOR CAROL MOFFATT




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Bylaws could ease local food regulations

from page 4

busy time but I found it well worth it. At Dysart's next council meeting we will have the conference on as an agenda item for verbal update from those who attended."

Minden Hills Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell also attended the food tourism food session.

"The speaker of the session suggested local municipalities create 'cottage food laws,'" Schell explained in an email. "These bylaws ease regulations while maintaining food safety. The law allows a person to produce and sell food from their own home without the expense and licensing that it would normally require to start a food business. In a community where many struggle with transportation and start up fees for business, the law can promote small business by allowing them to start through easier means – costs and hassles people normally have to go through in order to produce and sell their own products. The intent is to benefit local economies – supporting farming, locally grown, fresh and higher

end (value added) produce and products."

Schell indicated there is also some concern from municipalities about the provincial requirement that each have an integrity commissioner on retainer to handle complaints, and what the cost of handling frivolous or vexatious complaints might be.

"It would appear that having an integrity commissioner in the county may be opening Pandora's Box for any complaints to go through the integrity commissioner causing the cost of the service to be astronomical," Schell said in an email. "The integrity commissioner comes into effect on March 1 of this year so time will tell if the service actually does what it is intended."

One of the sessions Dysart et al Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy attended was called Shifting into Higher Gear: Processes to Streamline Planning and Development.

"I recently attended a dinner meeting with the Haliburton County Homebuilders Association," Kennedy said in an email to the paper. "Their message of the need to streamline

processes was one of the key messages I took away from that meeting. Although the presentation was more geared toward staff than politicians I still found the experiences of Bruce County implementing the 'lean process' which have substantially reduced the development application process to be worthy of further investigation. Township of Lake of Bays created a 'community planning permit' process that basically (if I interpreted the presenter's comments correctly) amalgamates all potential requirements for a predetermined type of development into one application."

Kennedy said he also got to see a project under development that would create an online development process, allowing staff and developers to monitor projects through the system.

"I suspect our staff are aware of these initiatives but now I am somewhat more aware of the potential savings in staff time, and lowering of permit time frames and developer frustration these types of initiatives can potentially have for Dysart if implemented here," he said.

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Publisher and Ad Director,
david.zilstra@gmail.com**JENN WATT**, Managing Editor,
jenn@haliburtonpress.com**JENNIFER MCEATHRON**, Admin
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com**DEBBIE COMER**, Circulation,
debbie@haliburtonpress.com**CHAD INGRAM**, Reporter,
chad@haliburtonpress.com**DARREN LUM**, Reporter,
darren@haliburtonpress.com**SUE TIFFIN**, Reporter
sue@haliburtonpress.com**KAREN LONDON**,
Production Co-ordinator
karen@haliburtonpress.com**LAURA CHOWZUN**,
Production**STACEY POTLIVO**,
Production**LAURA SMITH**, Sales,
laura@haliburtonpress.com**PAUL BANELOPOULOS**, Sales
paul@haliburtonpress.com**PAT LEWIS**, Inside Sales
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com2 IGA Road, Box 97
Minden, ON, K0M 2K0
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Validation

DURING A Minden Hills council meeting last week, Councillor Bob Carter wondered how the cost of the so-called “validation phase” of the Minden arena project could run a 50 per cent overage in the span of six weeks.

It was a very, well . . . valid question.

As regular readers of this publication will be aware, in September, the previous township council approved up to \$140,000 for the validation phase of the arena project – essentially a series of engineering assessments. The estimated cost for that work then grew to \$252,000, and in December, council approved up to \$280,000 to be spent on it. Then last week, councillors heard that cost was now estimated at \$323,000, and with legal and additional meeting costs factored in, the true cost is up around \$350,000.

Councillors heard from township staff and reps of the construction firm involved in the project about the complexities of the validation phase, part of the integrated design process, which is a relatively new system of project delivery in Canada; complications with the existing building; changes to the design for a new one; and about apparent miscommunication, for which the construction company took the blame.

Still, the cost the township is now being asked to pay for this initial phase of the project is some \$200,000 more than was publicly presented in the fall. This is very problematic, does not create an optimistic picture about how the rest of the proposed project will go, and should be

disconcerting to all residents of Minden Hills.

A flaw throughout this entire process, one emphasized over and over again by Councillor Pam Sayne, is that a project worth, with tax, more than \$14 million is being awarded to a lone bidder. Presumably, if Minden Hills councillors were putting additions on their homes, they would get more than one quote for that job, not just go with the one contractor who expressed initial interest, and let him call all the shots. They should

be doing the same on a project worth many millions of taxpayers’ dollars. A project of this scope should not proceed without competitive bids, and we are seeing the reasons why, in real time.

It certainly seems that at least some members of council, staff, and the

construction company are operating as if the contract has already been signed, which it has not.

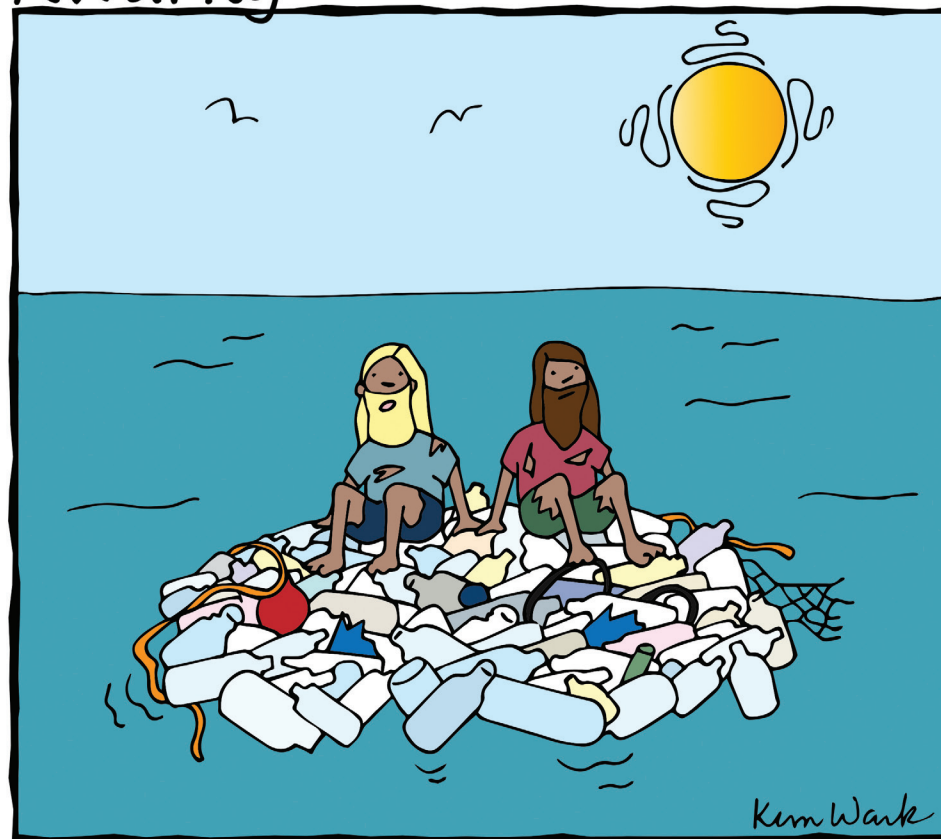
“The number we gave you, it includes all of that fee, you’re not paying more here,” one of the company’s reps said last week, referencing the total cost of the project, which has not been approved by council.

And it’s not too late. No contract has been signed. As community services director Mark Coleman told councillors back in December, “If you don’t agree with the price, or don’t agree with the design, or any reason, for that matter, [council] could pause, they could stop it outright, they could terminate it outright.”

Given the way things are unfolding, it may behoove councillors to take a second look at the process. That would certainly be a valid decision.

**CHAD INGRAM**
Reporter

Kwarky



“Technically, it’s deserted trash, not an island.”

Slingshots

LATELY, I HAVE been doing a lot of research on shooting slingshots. And, I’m proud to say, no self-inflicted injuries have yet occurred.

If I am remembering my childhood correctly, self-inflicted injury was the main occupational hazard of shooting a slingshot. This did not stop us, however. After all, self-inflicted injury was also the main occupational hazard of youth.

The truth is slingshots were actually quite popular when I was a young fellow. Most young boys had one and most were home-made too.

If you had any experience with a slingshot at all, you had a special ability to recognize fellow slingshot enthusiasts. It was subtle, but if you knew what to look for you would notice they either wore an eye patch or a splint on their thumbs.

The eye patch came from an elastic band that was not attached properly at the forks. The thumb splint came from placing your thumb in the line of fire at the moment of release.

Typically, this happened because your buddy would say something like, “Ready to shoot?” Which would prompt you to give him a thumbs up. This was so prevalent that I now believe there might be a correlation between this and the demise of hitchhiking.

In my youth, a good shot with a slingshot was the scourge of every pop can that roamed free in the wilderness. Conversely, a bad shot with a slingshot was just a scourge.

In many ways though, a slingshot was a perfect kid’s toy. They were exciting to use. They provided a use for your marble collection. Best of all, you could make one in no time at all using only a pen knife and an axe you “borrowed” from dad, provided you

found natural materials like the perfect fork in a tree and an elastic found hanging on the clothesline.

The only problem with those slingshots, if I recall correctly, is that they had a short lifespan.

The typical life of a slingshot went something like this.

Day one: Your slingshot is made from nothing more than the elastics from Dad’s pajama pants and a forked stick removed from Dad’s favourite apple tree.

Day two: Dad wonders who chopped down his favourite apple tree. He is angry too. It is at this point you decide that you are not, and will never be, George Washington.

Day three: Dad swears he will never answer the door in his pajamas again. Day four: You learn that your slingshot does indeed have the range to hit that window beyond the pop can target. As you run off, you can’t help but feel a little proud.

Day five: Your friend asks you if you “Are ready to shoot?” Seconds later, hitchhiking is no longer an option.

Day six: You ask your mom if you can get a peg leg and hook on your hand to match the eye patch you now need to wear for the next few days.

Day seven: You can’t find your slingshot. Later that day, Dad learns that your slingshot does indeed have the range to hit that window beyond the pop can target he set up. As he runs off, you can’t help but feel a little proud.

Day eight: As you are roasting marshmallows over an applewood fire Dad has made in the yard, you wonder two things. First, will you ever see your slingshot again? Second, where is that burnt rubber elastic smell coming from?

**STEVE GALEA**
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Why I can't stomach Trump

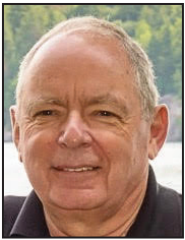
WHEN YOU write, you get messages from readers. Some are complimentary. Some are not.

I have received a couple that accuse me of being anti-American, anti-Donald Trump.

Yes, I am anti-Trump. I can't stomach the man.

But I've never really understood exactly why. Why should a basic Canadian nobody be concerned or have any feelings about who is president of the United States or what is happening in that distant country?

I discovered why last week when I was watching a TV news clip while doing some history research. The news clip was about the *New York Times'* new publisher, A. G. Sulzberger, meeting Trump to discuss Trump's constant denigration of the news media.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

In the meeting Trump boasted about rising out of the Jamaica, Queens neighbourhood of New York City to become president of the U.S.A. As if he is some unfortunate who overcame the disadvantages of poor living conditions and attained the country's highest office.

That's when I returned to the history research I had just set aside. It was research on another New York City neighbourhood and a person who was the exact opposite of Donald Trump.

That person was Deborah Moody, a strong, keenly intellectual woman who founded Gravesend, which became part of Brooklyn, the borough neighbouring Trump's Queens.

Deborah Moody was born in 1586 to a wealthy and religious English family. She came into more wealth and power when she married Henry Moody, an estate owner and member of Parliament who was knighted, then made a baron.

Henry died young and Deborah, now Lady Moody, was left to run Gareson, their substantial estate. She immediately ran afoul of the dreaded English Star Chamber, which dictated the duties of estate owners.

Then she ran afoul of religious fanatics who were burning people at the stake for having different views. Lady Moody was an Anabaptist, a person who believes babies should not be baptised until they reach an age of reason when they can truly understand and commit to Christianity.

Fed up with restrictions on individual freedoms, she sailed to America's Massachusetts Bay Colony to begin a new life. Puritan religious leaders there were annoyed by her Anabaptist views, labelled her a dangerous woman and excommunicated her. So she and some followers moved to New Netherland, the Dutch colony that later became New York when it was taken over by the British.

The Dutch offered her land that is now part of Brooklyn, told her she could build a town there and have total freedom of civil and religious beliefs. Lady Moody became the only known woman to establish a town in colonial North America.

She and her followers laid out streets, built houses and other buildings, including a church to be used by all faiths, including Quakers who were not appreciated by the Dutch Calvinists.

Lady Moody became the mayor of the new town of Gravesend and wrote its charter, part of which reads:

"There shall be complete social, political and religious freedom. In agriculture and cultural development, we shall open the door to wayfarers of whatever creed . . ."

Deborah Moody was everything that Donald Trump is not. She was an intelligent visionary, a successful builder and a dynamic leader who attracted committed followers because she believed in them and in protecting their rights.

One of those followers was a guy named John Poling who helped with the others to build the town. He was an ordinary guy, not known for anything, except perhaps for being the progenitor of my Poling family lineage.

His line produced seven generations of evangelical ministers, the last of whom was my distant cousin Lieutenant Clark Vandersall Poling, a U.S. Army chaplain.

Seventy-six years ago this week, Clark Poling and three other military chaplains drowned in the torpedoing of the troop ship SS Dorchester headed to the war in Europe. They died after helping soldiers into life boats and giving their own life jackets to those who did not have them.

Deborah Moody, her followers and their ancestors were unselfish comforters, givers and builders. Donald Trump is a distempered, self-centred taker who says he prefers soldiers who don't get captured, or presumably killed.

The comparison is why I can't stomach the man.

letters to the editor

Building in the public interest

To the Editor,

Good old Minden arena – If you've ever been there on a weekend between September and March, you'd know that it is a hub of activity, with plenty of families from here and the greater surrounding area coming to make use of our facility. In fact, it's the only activity hub in our community that's geared toward families and the younger generation.

Now, having read some of the letters of the last few weeks, I realize that some members of the community don't appreciate their precious tax money being diverted to investments which don't directly impact their own lives. Numbers being thrown around, like that means anything at all. How many school age kids are there currently in our county? Let's say 1,500. Can you do the cost analysis on this? Maybe we should

stop funding schools because students make up such a small portion of our population.

And to our seasonal residents – the folks who should be thankful every day that they have the means to not only buy a vacation home, but the ability to afford our taxes and support our community. If you're going to buy property, you should expect that not every single tax dollar goes toward your direct benefit. But then again, don't community amenities help to provide a safe and pleasant town for you to vacation in?

The arena planning committee has their work cut out for them. Let's make it happen – we need this facility! As for a pool – why should Minden Hills shoulder this cost, when it would be the whole county using it?

Angelika Walter
Minden Hills

No to a new arena

To the Editor,

There has been much discussion recently about the proposed new Minden community centre. I am opposed to this project for the following reasons:

1. This structure is not a community centre but mostly a hockey arena.

2. A small percentage of the population uses it at subsidized cost, while the rest of us (the majority) pay the lion's share of its operation.

3. Municipalities are facing provincial government cost cutting, downloading and funding reductions potentially increasing our municipal taxes 25 per cent.

4. Current budget deliberations in Minden started at 17 per cent tax levy increase. (Editor's note: that figure is likely to drop.)

5. Project costs are not firm with many un-

knowns. The best case due to the arena means about a five per cent tax increase.

In all, ratepayers are facing a tax increase of close to 40 per cent over three years!

In these uncertain fiscal times, council needs to be minimizing vulnerabilities. Our taxes should be directed toward necessities. Obvious priorities are: maintenance and repair of roads and bridges, municipal landfill upgrades, including weigh scale, compliance with occupational health and safety and environmental legislation improvement of recycling programs and facilities (compactor), flood planning and control initiatives.

We can't afford and don't need a new arena.

Paul Petric
Minden Hills

New Year's rant

To the Editor,

Drivers in this county are a concern for many reasons. 1. The Over the Line Driver. I travel South Lake Road often on my way to Minden. Drivers coming towards you, especially big trucks, are constantly over the centre line on most corners causing one to take the edge of the road to avoid a collision. Private snow plow drivers whose plow is wider than their truck have their plow over the line making you move over.

2. The Tailgater: Sitting on one's bumper trying to pass on a road with no passing areas is a recipe for an accident! Should an animal jump out on the road and instant breaking results the tailgater will end up in your trunk! Please keep your distance.

3. The Speed Sign Ignorer: Why do cars go 60 in an 80 zone and speed up to 80 when the speed drops to 60? They seem oblivious to the speed signs entirely! Of course in our extreme weather conditions one should drive according to those weather conditions!

4. The Lane Changer: At Hwy 35 and South Lake Road the car sits in the left turn lane and on the green light continues straight through the intersection on to Newcastle with no signal indication, cutting you off!

One must learn to be a very defensive driver to keep you and your car safe! You never know what the driver around you is going to do next! Good luck!

Lois Rigney
Canning Lake

Snowmobilers bring business to Dorset

Dorset in the winter can be very busy, depending on the weather. The months of January and February see a lot of snowmobile traffic, especially when Mother Nature cooperates. While some people love the peacefulness of a sleepy little town in the winter, the snowmobilers actually bring quite a bit of business when we need it the most. They stay at local hotels and B&B's, eat at the restaurants and shop at the grocery and liquor stores.

However, operating a snowmobile requires nothing more than a driver's licence, which means almost anyone can drive one. Too often people just hop on a sled with no knowledge of the rules or even how to operate one and are not only a danger to themselves but

to those around them. For information on how you can stay safe on the trails and even sign up for a safety course, visit ofsc.on.ca.

Always remember to stay on marked trails and if you're unsure of the ice thickness, stay off the ice. Failure to do so can result in the closure of trails or the loss of your expensive snowmobile, should you cross ice that isn't safe and go through.

Stay safe out there and happy riding!

Happy birthday to Gino Bellestrin, Gail Hope, Esther Fortney, Sky Boughen, Kyle Jones and Jordyn Nash. For birthdays and submissions please send them to burgesslt@me.com.

Submitted by Lee Ross

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Vacation fitness strategy

I LOVE WATCHING clients head off on a vacation. Most tell me that they plan on exercising when they are away because they will have lots of time for doing just that. I would say eight out of 10 of them return without fulfilling their self-imposed commitment. Let's face it, a chair on a beautiful beach is way more appealing than a workout, especially when we're feeling tired. Vacations are about having a change in routine to recharge the batteries that keep us going for the rest of the year.

I'm not suggesting that vacations should be fitness free. I am suggesting that our expectations are adjusted well before the first pair of shorts make their way to the suitcase. When we totally throw out all of the discipline we have worked so hard to master we return feeling worse than before we left for paradise. We've all heard and/or said the statement: I need a vacation from my vacation.

It's time to give yourself permission to take a break. It's totally OK to slow down and rest. Sometimes when we hold on to the intention of being "good" we end on the other side of the spectrum by overindulging. That leaves us feeling lousy both physically and emotionally. We end up coming home with more baggage than we went with.

Here are some healthy strategies to try out on your next vacation:

- **Move:** Try to do some type of movement every day that you're away. Walk, run, swim, dance or anything that gets you moving. Attend a fitness class if there's one available to you. Try a shorter version of the activ-

ity that you do when you're in your normal routine. Make a deal with your travel partner that you'll go for a walk to start and end the day. One trick is to make the commitment to something at the beginning of each day. Vacations are about taking a break from our regularly schedule programming. Be spontaneous. Movement is movement!

- **Food:** If you need to take a break from counting calories do just that, but be reasonable. Overeating never feels good. Stick with the choices that you know will benefit your body. Just because it's all you can eat, doesn't mean eat all that you can.

- **Drink:** Same strategies apply here as with food. For every alcoholic beverage you enjoy have a least an equal amount of water.

Regardless of your other drink choices, drink lots of water. It will keep you hydrated and it's calorie free.

- **Rest:** Let your weary body and soul rest. If you're tired get some extra sleep. Sleep really is the only way to recharge.

The next time that you're about to head off to your chosen piece of paradise take some time to plan for what would really make you feel great in the long run. Our time is so valuable. Once it's gone, there's no getting it back. A little forethought will help you have that wonderful vacation you've been working so hard to get to.

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.com.



LAURIE SWEIG
Practical Fitness



ASES team volleyball team hosts tournament

The 2018/2019 Archie Stouffer Elementary School Intermediate Boys Volleyball team played in the Division A 2019 County tournament held at ASES in Minden on Jan. 29. The Wildcats fought hard but came up against some very tough competition, according to coach Cheryl Patterson, who said they won their first match versus Woodville, but were defeated by Ridgewood and the tournament champions, Fenelon. "They played with great determination and sportsmanship," she said. From left, Jamie Crowe, Travis Clarke, Matthew Vargas, Austin Boylan, Evan Gilbert, Zander Upton, Kaelem Little, Broden Boisvert and Taylor Sharpless. /SUBMITTED



SNOWSHOE hikes!

"WILD WAYS OF WHITE WATER"~ 1.5km
Saturday February 2nd, 2:00pm-4:00pm
Minden White Water Preserve (meet in parking lot on Horseshoe Lk Rd)
Hike Leader: Rick Whitteker

"SNOWSHOE SNOWDON"~ 3km
Saturday February 9th, 2:00pm -4:00pm
Snowdon Park (meet in parking lot off County Rd #1)
Hike Leader: Rick Whitteker

"WETLANDS IN WINTER"~ 3km
Saturday March 2nd, 2:00pm-4:00pm
Queen Elizabeth Wildlands Provincial Park (meet in Devils Lake parking lot off Deep Bay Rd)
Hike Leader: Rick Whitteker

For more information visit www.mindenhills.ca/recreation

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Twenty years of family, friends at Pepper Mill

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Times Staff

Greg Turner has a good sense of the history of the building that houses The Pepper Mill Steak & Pasta House he has owned for the past two decades with his wife Lisa, even in some cases down to details like the colour of the paint that has covered its walls. “This place, it was baby blue, all the walls,” he reminisced, remembering what the restaurant first looked like when he and Lisa began leasing it in 1998. “Can you imagine coming in here, from minus 30 outside to baby blue? It’d be like, you couldn’t warm up even if it was 90 degrees in here.” Now, those baby blue walls are long painted over and people warm up at the Pepper Mill on a very regular basis, with long-time diners and those reading exceptional reviews online stopping in at the Hwy. 35 Carnarvon upscale family restaurant that just recently celebrated its 20th anniversary. The original building permit sits behind the bar, showing the property once belonged to Sinc Russell in 1948, who listed it as a service station, dairy bar and appliance store. It was then owned by the Chambers family, when it was Carnarvon Marine, alongside a small snack bar. The Chambers sold the business to Lisa’s father, who owned it for a few years as Pawson Marine. In the ’80s,

it was a very popular restaurant, and then a country club, where Lisa worked in her earlier years. Some readers might recall when the building was J-Kaloo’s, as well, before it was suggested Greg and Lisa give it a go. “I was 26 and she was 24,” Greg remembered. He had cooked to put himself through post-secondary biology studies at Wilfrid Laurier University, while Lisa took culinary courses and worked in the business. “She was just naturally good,” said Greg. “She managed a couple of different kitchens.” The pair opened The Pepper Mill Steak & Pasta House on Jan. 22, 1999, with help from family and friends and the previous owners, all who Greg said helped make the restaurant what he and Lisa wanted it to be. “It took about three weeks to get it ready to go, and then a week of food prep,” said Greg. “We didn’t advertise, to open. Everyone knew it was coming but they didn’t know when. We wanted the opening to be soft. I still have the receipts from the opening night, when we had 76 people for dinner. We routinely do 180 to 200 people a night, now. But back then, it was crazy. It was a bit of a scramble, but we made it through.” Much has happened in 20 years at the Pepper Mill. In 2006, Greg said the tornado at the end of July that “just about shut the county down,”

struck only a month after they had put a generator in that would run the restaurant. “So we were the only place open for like three days,” he said. “We’d never done this many people before. We [served] over 200 people a night for 13 days in a row. We would [serve] all the people off the street, and then all of the hydro workers would come in starting at 9:30 or 10 o’clock, and then we would cook for them until 11 or 12 o’clock. So that was an interesting time.” In 2009, “of course right when the recession kicked in,” said Greg, he and Lisa tore

see **CONSISTENTLY** page 11



Pepper Mill co-owner Greg Turner was the guest chef at a Minden Community Kitchen fundraising dinner in 2017. He is seen here with sons Trevor, left, Tim and Paul, who regularly help their parents at the family’s Carnarvon restaurant as well./FILE PHOTO by Chad Ingram

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						4		2
	3		1					
8				3		9		
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Answers on page 14

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NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS TO AMEND THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS OFFICIAL PLAN AND ZONING BY-LAW

TAKE NOTICE that Francis Thomas Contracting Company Ltd. has submitted applications to the Township of Minden Hills to change the Official Plan and Zoning By-law concerning 688 Bobcaygeon Road. This property is described as Part Lot 12, Concession A, former Township of Minden, Township of Minden Hills, County of Haliburton.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE is to inform the public that Francis Thomas Contracting Company Ltd. proposes to establish a hauled sewage (septage) disposal and treatment facility on 7.38 ha. (18.24 ac.) of the west part of this 47.35 ha. (117 ac.) property. The Township of Minden Hills, County Of Haliburton and Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MOECP) will ensure the applicant complies with the land-use planning and environmental review processes associated with these applications. MOECP has issued an Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) for a proposed Hauled Sewage Disposal Site, located at 688 Bobcaygeon Road. This approval is ECA 18-PET-59043.

Additional information about these applications is available from the following:
Francis Thomas Contracting Company Ltd. – Joe Cox, 705-489-2711; joe@thomascontracting.on.ca;
Township of Minden Hills, Planning Department – Ian Clendening, 705-286-1260 ext. 206, iclendening@mindenhills.ca; and
County of Haliburton, Planning Department – Charley White, 705-286-1333 / 1-866-886-8815, cwhite@county.haliburton.on.ca.

The Township of Minden Hills will soon circulate a statutory notice concerning these applications to owners of land within 120 m. of 688 Bobcaygeon Road; and subsequently convene a public meeting, as required by the Planning Act. During the public meeting any person with an interest in this matter will have an opportunity to ask questions about the proposed use and the proposed changes to the Official Plan schedules and policies, and the Zoning By-law schedule and provisions.

Consistently good food and service key to success

from page 10

sion kicked in,” said Greg, he and Lisa tore down the house behind the restaurant and built a new one that was more comfortable for their family – their first boy was born in 2000, the second was born in 2002 and the third was born in 2003.

“So we had three boys under the age of four [at one point],” said Greg. “Not only are we doing this, but we’re raising them. They’re all now part of the staff. My oldest will be going to university in the fall.”

In 2014, major renovations were required. “Remember you could smoke forever, right, so all the tracks for the [ceiling] weren’t white anymore, they were that kind of nicotine yellow.”

More efficient windows were added, and the bathroom and front space was worked on. That wasn’t the end of updates to be done though.

“Last year, we did the kitchen, put a new floor in and got some equipment, and thank God, because it’s been so busy now,” said Greg. “We put a new 10 burner double oven in. We do all of our pastas from scratch, nothing’s out of a pail ... At any one time, you’ll have from six to 10 frying pans going, cooking things. So it’s ... we used to do it with a six-burner, of which four worked.”

Despite changes to the building over the years, remarkably in an industry used to a high turnover, Pepper Mill staff celebrates longevity. The restaurant employs up to about 25 people, with six or seven people on the floor on a busy night, and six people in the kitchen.

“[Julie Chadwick] was here opening

night, and she’s still here,” said Greg, of the longtime family friend.

Tobey Champ, who Greg worked with at McKecks in the ’90s, has been at the Pepper Mill for about 15 years. Jim Minto began as a dishwasher in high school and has been the restaurant’s sous-chef for years now. As Greg lists off names of past and present employees – sometimes entire families of kids – many have been part of the Pepper Mill family for well over a decade, or had started at the restaurant in entry-level roles and worked their way up.

“They’ve all been here for so long and we’re blessed,” he said. “We just find what works.”

Some longtime staff even began as babysitters for Greg and Lisa before taking a job at the restaurant.

“It’s a family,” he stressed. “Once you find people who you can depend on, you keep the morale going. You treat them with respect, and well and give them the things they need. You know, because everyone has a life outside of this ... but you give them the things they need to succeed and it works.”

Besides a family atmosphere within staff, Greg and Lisa aim for consistency in food.

“Lisa and I have always wanted to have everyone to enjoy coming here, whether they work here or whether they’re coming to eat,” said Greg. “The most important thing we always said when we open is the food has to look and taste good, the service has to be really good, and the third thing is consistency.”

Their philosophy is working. Last weekend, Greg said it was “like summertime,”

with 100 people visiting on Thursday and 180 people dining on Friday night.

“We’re not always perfect and it doesn’t always work out that way, but if we mess up we do our best to make it better,” said Greg. “Redo the whole thing. It’s a philosophy. You can go anywhere for a Bud Light. Anywhere for a Caesar. You can’t go anywhere for a good meal. That’s the way we’ve always looked at it.”

A good meal and an excellent Christmas is what Greg and Lisa have offered annually for the past 19 years to some local families. They don’t advertise the event, but families who have been invited to attend rave of the couple’s generosity and the spirit of the party.

“The inspiration for it was a dishwasher who worked for me one time,” said Greg. “It was Christmas, and I’ve always loved Christmas. It’s a great time. We do Christmas well with our families, and he said, ‘oh, I hate Christmas.’ I said, how could anyone hate Christmas? And then you find out, some things they’ve had to deal with or some things that happen around Christmas ... who knows. But I never want-

ed to hear that. So I thought, maybe this is one thing we can do to help.”

Kids receive toys and families enjoy a good meal and a good time, while staff, Greg’s mom – and Santa Claus himself – volunteer time, suppliers donate some of the food, a musician plays the organ and volunteers drive families to the event to make the evening work.

“I don’t think anyone deserves notoriety for it,” said Greg. “It’s just something you should do. It’s a community thing, it’s not just Lisa and I.”

With the announcement of the 20th anniversary, the Pepper Mill’s social media page quickly received 240 responses and 76 congratulatory messages.

After 20 years, Greg focuses on the history of the business, the consistency of the quality of the food, and the family-like bond of everyone connected to the restaurant.

“That’s been the most important thing,” he said. “It has been my whole family and our friends, and our staff and their family and friends. That’s the most rewarding part about it.”

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6:30pm - 8:30pm
Minden Hills Cultural Centre

6:30-7:30– Guided Night Walk!
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For more info. contact Elisha at 705-286-1936





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MINOR HOCKEY

Peewee Girls

The Leveque Bros/Rock Breakers Peewee girls Jets travelled to Lakefield to take on the Ennismore Eagles. First period started off tight with plenty of chances for both teams, steady goaltending by Kaylee Jessup held the Jets in, with a 0-0 score to end the first. With first place on the line and a bye to semi-finals the Jets came out flying in the second. First goal was scored by Lily Manning on a nice short-handed break away. Second goal was scored Maryn McMann, and assisted by Lara Gallant and Autumn Winder. Third goal was scored by Hope Trotter, assisted by Sydney Fergusson and Maya Woods, ending the second period with the Jets up 3-0. The girls added some insurance in the third with a goal by Fergusson, assisted by Trotter. With 1:21 left in the third, Trotter added a fifth goal, assisted by Riley Brownlee, bringing the final score to a 5-0 win for the Jets, clinching their spot in first place!

The Peewee girls Jets took on the Napanee Crunch on home ice. Napanee opened the scoring with two goals early in the first but the Jets battled back with a goal from Woods assisted by Jordyn Coe and Gallant ending the first with the Jets trailing 2-1. Just 1:36 into the second Trotter tied the game, assisted by Avila Townsend and Coe. Gallant added a nice hat trick in the third with two assists from McMann and assists from Coe and Winder, bringing the final score to 5-2 for the Jets!

The Leveque Bros/Rock Breakers Peewee girls Jets took on the Ennismore Eagles in Haliburton on Saturday, which resulted in another win for the girls! It was a close game with no score going into the third period but again Jessup was strong. First goal for the Jets was scored by Woods, assisted by Winder. Just a few minutes later Woods scored again assisted by Mable McCue-Dixon and Rane Osborne. With 2:33 left in the third, the final goal was scored by McMann and assisted by Winder, ending the game with a 3-0 win! The girls end regular season with 16 wins, three losses and three ties! Way to go, girls! Good luck in the championship round!

By Jenn Jessup

Novice 1 LL

The Brightwoods Landscaping and Consulting Novice local league attended their first tournament of the season in Apsley Saturday, Jan. 26.

Game 1 was against Newcastle Stars and the Storm dominated the play throughout the majority of the game coming up with a 3-2 win. Brody Hartwig was presented with MVP of the game for his swift stick skills and landing three goals with assists from Jacob Sutton, Matthew Fairey and Benton Lloyd.

The second game versus Clarington Vikings was a hard action packed, evenly matched game with back and forth playing from both sides. Every Storm player fought hard with determination pulling out a 5-2 win. Zachary Prentice started off the scoring with the first goal and Hartwig continued to rack up his points with the next four goals.

Carter Knapton made many great saves to keep us in the game and Hunter Hamilton was honoured MVP of the game for his hard work in skating strong and controlling the play.

The third and final game was vs Bancroft Jets. Action was back and forth and Hartwig again showcased his unique abilities in obtaining the puck and skating around his opponents to secure another hat trick ending in a final score of 3-1. Hawksley Dobbins was named MVP of the game for his go get me attitude and proving size is no barrier! The crowd was loud and emotions were strong

as the team celebrated their first tournament victory win! Teamwork is key! Every single player has their own unique set of skills they bring to this team and when the coaching staff can hone in on those specific abilities and use to the team's advantage it shows on the scoreboard.

Overall our defensive team of Prentice, Hawksley Dobbins, Gideon Borgdorff and Duncan Evans-Fockler maintained their presence at the blue line keeping play in the opponent's end throughout the tournament. They were also a strong force in our zone clearing the puck continuously to allow for forwards Hartwig, Hamilton, Fairey, Lloyd Sutton, Tyler Hughes, Cruize Neave, and Oakley Craftchick to move quickly into the opponent's end and create many scoring chances. Goalie Knapton made save after save throughout the tournament keeping Storm ahead on the scoreboard in all three games.

Way to go, Storm!

Brightwoods Landscaping and Consulting Novice LL team took on first place South Muskoka Fitzmaurice on Saturday, Feb. 2 in Gravenhurst. Highland Storm started out very sluggish in the first period being down 2-0 at the end of the frame. Goalie Carter Knapton started out the second making some great saves which seemed to spark the offensive. Midway through the second, Brody Hartwig landed Storm's first goal of the game on a beauty breakaway. The defensive core of Zach Prentice, Gideon Borgdorff, Duncan Evans-Fockler and Hawksley Dobbins played an amazing second and third period keeping the puck out of our end.

Third period was action packed, at both ends of the rink. Hartwig landed two more goals earning another hat trick for the season. Storm came up short in a 4-3 loss. From the start of the year losing 10-0 to this team to now being within a goal shows how much effort and dedication these players have shown.

Cheer us on at the Minden arena Saturday Feb. 9 at 11 a.m. for our next local home game action and again Sunday, Feb. 10 at 4 p.m. in Minden when we take on Huntsville Near North.

By Cheryl Smith

Peewee A

On Feb. 2, JoAnne Sharpley's Source for Sports/Haliburton Family Medical Centre Highland Storm Peewee A hosted the Durham Crusaders at the A.J. LaRue arena.

The Peewee A's played hard but the game ended in 6-2 loss. Goals scored by Austin Boylan and Colby Coumbs. The Peewee team will be back in action on Saturday, Feb. 9 at 11:45 a.m. in Oshawa to play the sixth and final game of the series.

By Amber Card

Bantam

On Saturday, Feb. 2 the Peppermill Steak and Pasta House/Dollo's Foodland Highland Storm Bantams hosted the Shelburne Wolves for Game 2 in their playdown series. The Storm came out aggressively and trying to be the first on the board but after 15 minutes the score was still at zeroes for both teams. The Wolves managed to get on the board first and then scored a powerplay goal to put them ahead 2-0 going into the third. The Storm battled hard in the third but the Wolves scored another powerplay goal and another right at the end to take the game 4-0 and a 2-0 series lead. A great effort by all the players. The Storm head to Shelburne on Saturday, Feb. 9 to play Game 3 of the series.

By Lisa Delisle

Midget

The Highlander and Ed Smolen Family Dentistry Storm Midgets moved onto the second round of playoffs against the Stayner Cyclones and won their first game 3-2 in Haliburton on Feb. 2. It was an action-packed, hard-hitting, fast-paced game. Both teams working hard for puck control. Gilbert got things going when he top cornered the first goal for the Storm, assisted by Morissette. Later in the first, Walker fed Gilbert and he did more of his magic and nabbed the second goal. Storm winning 2-0 at the end of the first period. Both teams came out flying in the second. With the Cyclones being down by two, they aggressively worked to get on the scoreboard. However, hats off to Gilbert who showed intense determination to fight through the defence and find the opening for the third Storm goal. With a three-goal lead, the Storm team eased off the pressure slightly and the Cyclones took advantage while on a power play, scoring two quick goals and making it a 3-2 game late in the second. The third period continued to be fast and aggressive with end to end action. The Cyclones tried to even it up, pulling their goalie but the Storm did their job and took the first game of the playoffs 3-2.

By Suzanne Haedicke

TD Canada Trust Atom LL

With a hard game underway our LL TD Canada Trust Atoms hosted Huntsville this past weekend. Huntsville were quick to open to scoring but with no hesitations Ayden Chapman sent a beauty pass up to Ethan Rowe with Rowe taking a nice wrist shot from the hash marks and Logan Reid

pounced on the rebound and scored top shelf.

During the second period Bryant Medlar was able to strip the puck away from Huntsville and sent Kamauhl Cassey-Russel a nice pass and Cassey-Russel found the back of the net. In the third period with exhaustion setting in from missing players Chapman once again played the boards hard and sent a pass up to Rowe and he wound up rebounding the puck straight to Cassey-Russel to score again. The TD Canada Trust Atoms fought hard but were not able to pull out a win. Player of the game goes to Eric Bird.

The next and final game is hosted in Huntsville by Huntsville McDonalds.

By Chris McMartin

Tyke LL

The Tom Prentice and Sons and Walker's Heating and Cooling Storm Tyke team travelled to Peterborough for their first two-day jamboree! The team played well together passing the puck around setting up many scoring opportunities for the entire team. After three games the Tyke Storm team scored a combined 45 goals and only allowed 15 against them. Nixon Ecclestone did Storm proud by winning the skills accuracy portion of skills competition out of 104 hockey players! Go Storm Go! Next game is at home Sunday in Haliburton at 1 p.m. where they will take on Huntsville.

By Marita Bagshaw

Walkers Home Hardware Peewee LL

On Saturday, Feb. 2 the Walkers Home Hardware LL Peewees travelled to

see page 14



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UPCOMING
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Events**

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Calendar? It's free! Contact Pat at
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Artists' Meet and Mingle

When: Friday, Feb. 8, 4 to 6 p.m.
Where: Rails End Gallery, Haliburton
A Friday afternoon social of conversation, food and drink
with other art-minded people (performance, literary, visual,
and others). Organized by the Arts Council ~ Haliburton
Highlands, open to everyone.
Contact: 705-457-8033 or haliburtonarts@haliburtonarts.
on.ca

Irondale Goes Italian

When: Saturday, Feb. 9, 5 p.m.
Where: Irondale Community Centre
Fundraising dinner. Includes chicken parmesan, fettucini
alfredo, tiramisu
Contact: 705-457-8438, www.IrondaleOntario.ca

How to protest inaction on climate change

When: Tuesday, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m.
Where: Minden United Church, 21 Newcastle St., Minden
Hosted by Environment Haliburton. Admission by donation.
Contact: Eric Lilius 705-754-9873

Haliburton: Sexual Health Clinic

When: Wednesday, Feb. 13, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
The clinic provides clients with confidential access to
cervical screening, low-cost birth control, pregnancy testing
and sexual health teaching. Testing and treatment of
sexually transmitted infections are also provided. For more
information, locations or to make an appointment, call the
Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 2205.

Polar Bear Challenge

When: Saturday, Feb. 16
Where: Head Lake Park, Haliburton
Registration at 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and event starts at 1 p.m.
Organized by the Haliburton and District Lions Club and
part of Haliburton's Frost Festival
Pledge forms available at Cranberry Cottage, Haliburton
Foodland, West Guilford Shopping Centre, Todd's
Independent or online at haliburtonlions.com. All proceeds
to the SickKids' Garron Family Cancer Centre or the
Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation
Contact: Lion Jim Frost at 705-457-4031

Valentine's Day Musical Concert

When: Saturday Feb. 16, 2 p.m.
Where: Maple Lake United Church (corner of Hwy. 118 &
Stanhope Airport Rd.)
Admission by donation. Light lunch following the concert
All Proceeds go to Maple Lake United Church

CFUW Guest Speaker: Heather Reid

When: Thursday, Feb. 21, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Where: Abbey Gardens
Heather Reid will be speaking at the Canadian Federation
of University Women Haliburton Highlands meeting.
She will be highlighting the new developments at Abbey
Gardens and will talk about future ideas including specifics
about the Abbey Retreat Centre. Presentation begins at
1:40 and runs to 2:40 p.m. after which Heather will be
offering a snowshoe hike for those interested.
All women who are considering becoming a CFUW
member are welcome to join us.
Cost: Free.

National Cupcake Day

When: Monday, Feb. 25, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Where: Minden Animal Hospital
Minden Animal Hospital is once again baking scrumptious
cupcakes to benefit Muskoka OSPCA Bracebridge on
National Cupcake Day. Pre orders are welcome until Feb.
22. Don't have a sweet tooth? Donations can be made by
visiting National Cupcake Day. Search for the team "MAH
Fur Pets."

Food Handler Course

When: Tuesday, Feb. 26, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Where: Health Unit office (191 Highland St., Unit 301) in
Haliburton.
This course teaches participants how to handle and
prepare food safely. Upon successful completion,
participants receive a certificate (valid for a period of five
years) indicating they are registered as a certified food
handler. Cost is \$40 per person. For more information and
to confirm space availability, call the Health Unit at 1-866-
888-4577.

MINOR HOCKEY

from page 13

Gravenhurst to take on the Parry Sound Peewee team for
the second weekend in a row. The Storm players were de-
termined to have a different outcome and they certainly did.
Both teams battle for the puck and neither team was able to
put one in the net in the first period. It was Alex Hendry who
scored the first goal of the game. Parry Sound was quick to
follow with a goal of their own tying up the game. With eight
seconds left of the period Nathan Harrison scored the second
goal for the Storm. Parry Sound came back with two more
goals in the third period putting them into the lead and giving
them the 3-2 win. Next weekend come support them at the
S.G. Nesbitt Arena when they take on the South Muskoka
Peewee team Sunday at 5 p.m.

By Lisa Reinwald

GJ Burtch Atom LL

On Saturday the GJ Burtch LL Atoms travelled to
Huntsville to face the Huntsville McDonald's Atoms. The
Storm would strike first when Isaac Borgdorff set up Eric
Mueller in the first period. Although Huntsville would get a
goal in the second period, the Storm would again take the lead
when the Storm's Jacob Mantle went end to end and scored
unassisted. Taylor Mulock was relentless on the puck, wheth-
er she was back-checking helping out the defence in our own
end or fore-checking dictating the pace. Taylor's effort paid

off when she scored in the third, assist going to Borgdorff.
Final 3-1 Storm. Next up the Storm host South Muskoka on
Saturday at the S.G Nesbitt Arena.

By Jamie Lloyd

Peewee Canadian Tire LL

Highland Storm LL Peewee Canadian Tire 2 game
weekend.

The Highland Storm faced off against the Muskoka Bears
Blakewood Construction in Haliburton on Saturday. The
game was a tight run for goals but the Highland Storm took
the lead in the third period to win the game with a score of
4-3. Carson Simms's goaltending kept the Highland Storm in
the game and the goals by Ethan Thomas (two goals), Ethan
Megrah-Poppe, and Haiden Bird, allowed the Storm to win
the game.

The Highland Storm LL Peewee Canadian Tire then went
to Gravenhurst on Sunday to face off against The Muskoka
Bears CC Tatham. This game was a strong battle for both
teams all game. At the end of the second the score was tied
1-1 but as the third period began the Muskoka Bears took the
lead. The Storm tried to come back but unfortunately lost 2-1.

The Highland Storm LL Peewee Canadian Tire plays their
next game on Saturday, Feb. 9 at 11:15 a.m. in Gravenhurst
against the Parry Sound Gibson H&C.

By Shawn Guild



Bowling Scores

Monday afternoon, Jan. 28

High Average (cumulative)

Women – Chris Cote – 178

Men – Gary Hunt – 203

This Week's Highs – Women

High Single – Norma Terro – 207

High Single Hcp – Norma Terro – 268

High Triple – Norma Terro – 549

High Triple Hcp – Norma Terro – 732

This Week's Highs – Men

High Single – Marty Schuster – 276

High Single Hcp – Marty Schuster – 318

High Triple – Marty Schuster – 625

High Triple Hcp – Marty Schuster – 751

Tuesday Afternoon, Jan. 29

Men

High Average – Claude Cote 204

High Single – John Pugh 250

High Single H/C – John Pugh 300

High Triple – Claude Cote 601

High Triple H/C – Emile Duchene 692

Women

High Average – Chris Cote 185

High Single – Chris Cote 213

High Single H/C – Lydia Comeau 256

High Triple – Chris Cote 586

High Triple H/C – Lydia Comeau 749

Haliburton Red Wolves Bowling Scores

Casey Heley 242

Skylar Pratt 202

Jason Cochrane 167

Kim Buie 150

Alyssa Whitaker 140

Emily Boccitto 136

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1	2	8	5	4	9	7	3	6
7	5	6	8	2	3	1	4	9
9	1	2	6	5	4	3	8	7
4	7	3	2	9	8	6	5	1
6	8	5	3	1	7	4	9	2
2	3	9	1	7	5	8	6	4
8	6	7	4	3	2	9	1	5
5	4	1	9	8	6	2	7	3

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- Stanhope Municipal Airport Committee
- Environment & Stewardship Committee
- Haliburton County Joint Compliance
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Candidates who have a specific interest in any of the
above committees are encouraged to apply. To view the
Terms of Reference for each Committee please
visit the website at www.algonquinhighlands.ca or
contact the Municipal Clerk for more information.

Letters of interest will be accepted by the undersigned
until 4:30 p.m. on Friday March 1, 2019.

Matt Gower

Municipal Clerk
Township of Algonquin Highlands
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400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

General Contractor Rodco Enterprise seeking experienced Carpenters. **Call 705 457-1224**

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COOK NEEDED. The Royal Canadian Legion Minden Branch 636 is looking for a Part-Time cook. We offer a friendly environment and flexible hours. Wages to be negotiated. Please drop off your resume at the Legion Monday to Friday between 10am and 3pm.

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Term of employment is for 16 weeks, from Apr 29 to Aug 23, 2019.

Visit www.mindenhill.ca/employment-opportunities/ for posting details, job requirements and submission instructions, or email sprentice@mindenhills.ca



Receptionist/Accounts Receivable Clerk

We currently have a position available for a receptionist/accounts receivable clerk at our Carnarvon store.

Responsibilities include answering phones, customer service, accounts receivable and inventory receiving. Successful candidates should have good computer skills and some bookkeeping experience.

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560 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Are you tired of winter and need something to do?
Archie Stouffer Grade 8 Graduation Committee is **Having a Market FUNraiser**
When: Friday, February 15th from 3pm to 8pm
Where: In the GYM at the school
Thirty One, Avon, Scentsy, Crafters, Pampered Chef, Brow Bar, Nygard, Pink Zebra, Stella & Dot, Veggie Plus, Crafters, Quilters & Crochet, Wood Carving, Glass Work, Candles, Bath & Lip Bombs & More!
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Come help kick off Family Day Weekend!

Frost Festival 2019

Saturday, February 16, 2019
11 am to 3 pm

We are still in need of volunteers for the following areas:

- ❄ Winterdance Dog Sled Rides (1:30 - 3:30 pm). Assist with the line, holding dogs, helping the dogs along the route, etc. 1 or 2 hour shifts.
- ❄ Horse Drawn Wagon Rides (11:00 am - 1:00 pm, 1:00 - 3:00 pm) Assist with the line for the Horse Drawn Wagon rides, help people down from the step
- ❄ Ice Climbing (11:00 am - 1:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm). Help register people for ice climbing and let them know when it is their turn to climb.
- ❄ Parking/Traffic Flow (10:40 - 11:30 am, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm) Direct people to alternative parking lots
- ❄ Pony Rides (11:00 am - 1:00 pm) Help lift kids onto the ponies.



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CROSS, Brian George

Brian died peacefully at Freeport Health Centre of Grand River Hospital, Kitchener on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at the age of 88.

Beloved husband of Sparkie, dear father of Doug (Rhonda) and Laura Widmer (Larry), stepfather of Paula Bonner, grandfather of Greg, Gillian, Victoria, Jeff, Lisa and Kevin and great-grandfather of Sophia, Ella and Isaac. Predeceased by his first wife Vicki, his parents George and Nora (nee Sullivan) Cross and stepson Brent.

Before retirement, Brian served as a professional forester for over 30 years. He was dedicated to his passion for stewardship of the province's forest resources on behalf of the citizens of Ontario.

A service to celebrate Brian's life will be held at the Erb & Good Family Funeral Home, 171 King St. S., Waterloo on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 2 p.m. with a reception immediately following in the funeral home's Fireside Room.

As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations to the Terry Fox Foundation may be arranged by contacting the funeral home at www.erbgood.com or 519-745-8445.

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It's Winter

Once again it is time to shake off those mid winter blues, that cooped-up, cabin fever tension that comes with days that are too short and weather that is less than hospitable. It is time for the Minden Winter Carnival, one of the best excuses man has ever devised to help make winter enjoyable.

After months of planning and hard work, the Minden Kinsmen Club is set to present its thirty-first edition of this winter favourite.

Carnival activities begin Friday evening at 6 p.m. and continue throughout the weekend. Most of the activities will be centered around the Minden Community Centre. Starting Friday evening is the annual Carnival Bonspiel,

Carnival time!

sponsored by the Minden Curling Club. This popular mixed event attracts rinks from throughout southern Ontario and will continue until Sunday.

Also on Friday evening, the selection of the Carnival Queen and Princess will be made at the arena. Sponsored by local businesses, the young ladies will have been interviewed at 6:30 p.m. with the results being announced to the expectant crowd at 8:30 p.m.

Friday night, following the selection of the queen, a team of Minden Oldtimers will take on the HHSS Redmen in an exhibition hockey match.

The Crowe's Nest, a popular spot throughout the

(more on page 6)

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Wednesday, January 28, 1987

Plans for hospital addition unveiled

"You and me - how shall we do it?" That was the theme of Barbara Dawson's speech at the official kick-off of the Haliburton Hospital expansion fund drive, held January 20 at the Haliburton Legion hall.

Dawson, chairman of the expansion fund committee, explained to an audience of about 75 how county residents could go about raising their \$240,000 share of the cost of the new Haliburton Hospital chronic care unit.

Also speaking at the meeting were Leo Dorion, executive director of St. Joseph's General Hospital in Peterborough and Kevin Cummings, co-ordinator of Haliburton and Minden hospitals.

So far, Dawson said, the expansion fund committee has managed to raise \$22,400 (another \$600 has been added to that since the meeting.)

The projected cost of the new unit is \$1,375,000. The provincial government has agreed to contribute almost two-thirds of that amount, the county has committed itself to \$266,400 and the expansion fund committee will find the rest.

Donations to the expansion fund so far include: \$20,000 from the Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary; individual donations totalling \$1,200; \$600 from the Victoria District Scottish Rite Club; \$500 from a group of Bell Telephone employees; \$300 from the Haliburton Hospital staff and \$100 from the Kinsmen of the South Algonquin district.

Dawson said the Hali-

burton Lions' Club has promised to raise \$50,000 through a series of draws and special events, including a raffle of a piece of waterfront property.

Among the special events planned by the Lions is a hockey game scheduled for March 31 featuring the CKVR No-Stars.

Donations to the fund can be addressed directly to Haliburton Hospital Expansion Fund, Box 512, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0.

Leo Dorion, who as executive director of St. Joseph's Hospital, will be in charge of setting up the chronic care unit, began his talk by commenting "I think it's really great that the whole community is supporting this project."

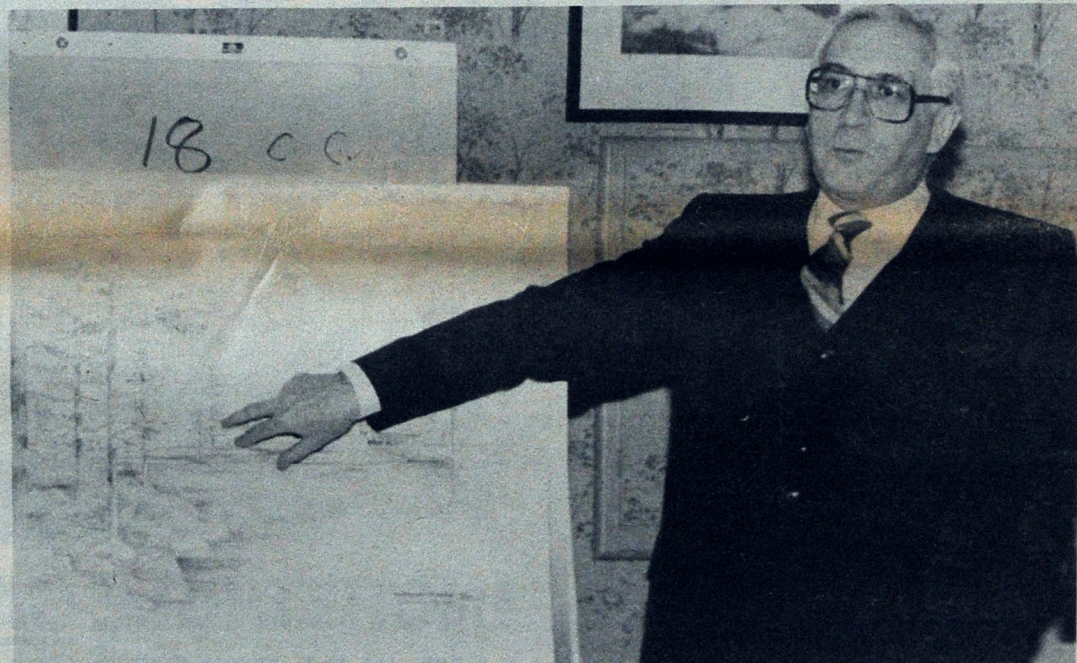
Dorion explained that the new unit would take up approximately 10,000 square feet of space close to the present hospital and would cost about \$900,000 a year to run. He added that it would require the hiring of approximately 31 new staff.

"It's quite a large project and there's a number of ways the space could be added," he said. "We want the whole hospital to function as a single unit and to provide some economy of operation."

Dorion said that some hospital additions don't function smoothly and economically. That is something they would have to guard against in Haliburton, he said.

Kevin Cummings, co-ordinator for Haliburton and Minden hospitals

(more on page 2)



Leo Dorion, executive director of St. Joseph's Hospital in Peterborough shows what the new Haliburton Hospital wing could look like at the official kick-off fund drive held last Tuesday, January 20 at the Haliburton Legion.

Townships agree to cost shares

The municipalities of Haliburton County have reached an agreement on how to divide their shares for the new chronic care unit planned for the Haliburton Hospital.

At the January 21 county council meeting it was decided that each municipality would contribute to the county's \$266,400 share of the bill according to its levy apportionment.

The hospital addition will cost approximately \$1.4 million of which the Ontario government will pay two-thirds. The Haliburton County Hospital Fund Raising Committee will raise \$240,000 and the

county, through the ten municipalities, will contribute the remainder, approximately \$266,400.

The funds will be raised over the next two years and paid at the end of that period to the Board of St. Joseph's hospital in Peterborough, which will oversee the design and construction of the new unit.

The county will not be charged interest on its share.

According to an earlier arrangement, the largest part of the county share was to come from the three municipalities of Anson, Hindon and Minden, Stanhope Township and

Dysart et al.

Together, they were to pay \$133,200 and the county was to raise a similar amount.

Earlier this month however, Minden council objected to this arrangement arguing that it placed too great a burden on three of Haliburton's ten municipalities.

Though the vote at last Wednesday's county council meeting for the new share arrangement by apportionment levy was unanimous, one councillor objected to the agreement during the discussion.

"People from my

township go to hospital at Bracebridge or Huntsville and many of us feel that we shouldn't have to contribute so much," said Don Shortreed, Deputy-Reeve of Sherborne Township. Shortreed added that he, personally, is in favour of the new funding agreement but his council is against it.

But then Bill Howe, Reeve of Bicroft Township, said that though some of his council thought the same, he convinced them to go along with the new share arrangement, saying that the new unit would be a county institution and that everyone should work together on it.

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